EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS

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COMMUNITY

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MALDEF Honors Detroit Singer Sixto Rodriguez

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DCFC Women Advance to Semi Finals !!!

El renovado parque Roosevelt contó con una cálida inauguración por parte de los habitantes de Detroit

Por Estefania Arellano-Bermudez

El renovado Parque Roosevelt está situado al norte de la Estación Central (Michigan Central Station), en el corazón de Corktown y en el extremo norte del Mexicantown. La renovación de $6 millones es un proyecto de la ciudad de Detroit con fondos de la Ley del Plan de Rescate Estadounidense (ARPA). Sus extensos 13 acres ofrecen a los amantes de las caminatas, la oportunidad de pasear por amplios jardines y senderos rodeados de plantas.

"En realidad, se siente como un espacio para que disfrute la comunidad y la gente, en lugar de simplemente algo bonito para ver", dijo Patrick Miller, residente y visitante del parque de Highland Park.

La renovación del parque refleja la revitalización de la Estación Central, comprada en 2018 por Ford Motor Company e inaugurada recientemente después de una restauración histórica de seis años.

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Revitalized Roosevelt Park gets a Warm Welcome from Detroiters

By Estefania Arellano-Bermudez

The newly revitalized Roosevelt Park is situated north of the Michigan Central Station in the heart of Corktown and on the northern edge of Mexicantown. The $6 million renovation is a City of Detroit project with funding from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Its sprawling 13 acres offers promenade lovers a chance to meander along expansive lawns and plant-lined walkways.

"It actually feels like a space for community and for people to enjoy, rather than just something nice to look at," said Patrick Miller, a Highland Park resident and park-goer.

The park's renewal mirrors the revitalization of the Michigan Central Station, purchased in 2018 by Ford Motor Company and recently reopened after a six-year historic restoration.

Park construction began in the summer of 2022 and was completed in the summer of 2023, but the unveiling event was marred by the impact of the Canadian wildfires on Detroit's visibility and air quality. "If you find photos from the grand opening, there's a definite haze over everything. You could barely see the Ambassador Bridge at times," said Patrick Droze of OHM Advisors, the design firm at the helm of the project.

Following its renovation in 2023, Roosevelt Park has become a treasured space for rest or recreation enjoyed by Detroiters and visitors in the shadow of Michigan Central Station

cont. on pg.7

Bank of America Awards Over $1.1 Million to Metro Detroit Nonprofits

The American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan and Henry Ford Health are among the newest nonprofit organizations in southeast Michigan to receive $1.1 million in grants this year from Bank of America in its annual first round of grants, focused on improving the lives of individuals and families by investing in health and jobs.

"It's critically important to partner with Detroit nonprofit organizations to help address disparities in access to health care, education and employment as part of Bank of America's commitment to supporting progress and economic mobility for all in Michigan," said Matt Elliott, president, Bank of America Michigan, of the grants going to 30 nonprofits. "Our goal is to take action, and this funding helps provide the resources and support needed to help build thriving communities in our state long-term."

A first-time grant recipient, the American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan (AIHFS) will use its funds to promote youth workforce development by providing salaries and other support to the group's Summer Employment Program for young adults ages 18-24, providing these young people with valuable employment experience.

"We are immensely thankful to Bank of America for their generous support that allows us to hire four dedicated young individuals for our summer youth program," said Chasity Dial, AIHFS CEO. "This opportunity not only benefits the youth employees by providing invaluable work experience, but also significantly impacts our agency. Their involvement will enhance the effectiveness of our program, allowing us to better serve and empower the next generation of Native youth in Southeast Michigan. Together, with Bank of America's support, we are creating a pathway for positive change and empowerment within our community."

Henry Ford Health is another first-time grant recipient that plans to use its grant to support an intensive summer science and medical-focused program for high school students, exposing them to careers in the medical field. The Readying Youth Scientists for Excellence in Medicine, Health Equity, and Discovery Program (RYSE MED) to support students from backgrounds that are underrepresented in medicine and who face structural barriers to pursuing careers in healthcare and research.

"We extend our heartfelt gratitude to The Bank of America Charitable Foundation for generously supporting our RYSE MED Program. With your invaluable contribution, we can continue nurturing bright, young minds and breaking down systemic barriers in healthcare. Together, we are fostering a future generation of diverse healthcare professionals dedicated to making a lasting impact on our community's health. Thank you for believing in our mission and empowering us to create meaningful change," said Dr. Martina Caldwell, MD, Medical Director at Henry Ford Medical Group's Office of Diversity and Inclusion.

Henry Ford Health's RYSE MED 2023 Closing Celebration

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City to Invest $6.1M to Extend Affordability on 389 Housing Units to Prevent Potential Displacement

Nearly 400 individuals and families living across eight aging low-income apartment buildings in Detroit will see their units renovated and their rents kept affordable, thanks to a $6.1 million investment announced today by city housing officials. The city funding will help cover much of the cost of the renovations in exchange for the owners keeping rents affordable for 389 households for another 15-25 years.

Projects approved for the funding so far include six buildings at affordable housing developments in the Hubbard Farms and Mexicantown neighborhoods. The remaining two buildings are pending approval from City Council. Without the funding, the buildings would be at risk of converting to market rate, potentially displacing longtime and elderly lower income Detroiters.

The use of funding from the city's Affordable Housing Trust Fund satisfies an agreement between the US Department of Housing & Urban Development and the City's Department of Housing & Revitalization. That agreement resolves HUD's questions about the criteria the city used to distribute Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) through the Motor City Match program during the early years of the program in 2015-2018. The Housing & Revitalization Department was the direct recipient of those funds and distributed them to the Motor City Match Program.

HUD officials participated in conversations at the inception of Motor City Match about how CDBG funds would be used. After reviewing actual expenditures, however, HUD took the position that $6.1 million in Motor City Match spending in those years did not meet CDBG guidelines because those expenditures could not be directly tied to specific business addresses (many of which were still in the process of establishing themselves).

To resolve the matter, The City has agreed to utilize $6.1 million of its own general fund dollars and spend them in a way that is in accordance with CDBG guidelines. Those City funds will be used to support the four affordable housing preservation projects to renovate the buildings, extend the years of affordability and prevent the displacement of longtime Detroiters.

The City has elected to use funds from the Trust Fund and apply them toward six affordable housing preservation projects. Money in the trust fund is generated through proceeds from the sale of city owned land for economic development projects. HUD has agreed that this is an acceptable use of these funds under its guidelines.

"MiSide Housing is pleased to partner with the City of Detroit, MSHDA and other funders to support the preservation of affordable housing for residents of Hubbard Farms," said Timothy S. Thorland, Executive Director, MIHousing. "These historic properties were saved from the wrecking ball some twenty-plus years ago by virtue of similar partnerships. Today, at a time of rapidly rising housing cost, we're extending our commitment by renovating the properties and ensuring long-term affordability for residents."

In April, City officials announced that it and its partners had invested more than $1 billion into affordable housing in the city in the past five years.

"That level of investment is the reason Detroit is not experiencing tent cities and a homelessness crisis like some other large cities," said the city's director of the Housing & Revitalization Department, Julie Schneider. "It is going to take many more years of sustained investment into affordable housing to meet the need and demand in the city and this $6.1 million investment will be an important part of that.

"We appreciate HUD's partnership in working through this very complex process," Schneider added. "This is a fair resolution and are pleased to finally be able to put the matter to rest. As a result, we will be supporting the preservation of badly needed affordable housing in a way HUD fully supports and that protects our most vulnerable longtime residents."

Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan and other officials announce $1 billion in affordable housing projects around the city over five years in April 2024. Credit City of Detroit

Eight aging low-income apartment buildings in Detroit will be renovated and rents kept affordable to existing longtime residents. The approved projects for this funding include six buildings in the neighborhoods of Hubbard Farms and Mexicantown:

① 3615 W. Vernor Highway (Martin Gardens — The Cole)
② 465 W. Grand Boulevard (Hubbard Farms — The Harrington)
③ 1453 Hubbard St. (Hubbard Farms — The Harwill)
④ 1185 Clark St. (Martin Gardens)
⑤ 3502 – 3528 W. Vernor Highway (Martin Gardens)
⑥ 1737 – 1755 25th St. (Martin Gardens)

Additionally, two more buildings are awaiting approval from the Detroit City Council.

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City of Detroit launches Round 2 of Popular Down Payment Assistance Program

Mayor Mike Duggan recently joined with President Joe Biden's American Rescue Plan Chief Gene Sperling, City Council members and other partners to announce the opening of Round 2 of the popular Down Payment Assistance Program. Through its first round, funded with $12 million in ARPA funds, 434 longtime Detroiters realized the American Dream of becoming first time homeowners.

Round 2 of the program opened on Thursday, June 27 and is expected to help up to 300 more Detroiters go from being renters to homeowners. Applications are available at www.detroitdpa.org. The program provides up to $25,000 in downpayment assistance for low-to-moderate income residents who currently pay as much in rent as they would on a mortgage but need some help paying one-time up-front costs associated with a home purchase, most significantly a down payment.

"Thanks to President Biden's American Rescue Plan Act, 434 Detroiters now have the security of owning their own home and are building generational wealth," said Mayor Duggan. "The ARPA program is changing lives in many ways, but perhaps none more significant that what it is doing through the down payment assistance program."

"This down-payment assistance program to lower costs for first time homeowners that Mayor Duggan has created with funding by President Biden's American Rescue plan is precisely what President Biden is now proposing to do nationwide," said Gene Spurling, Senior Advisor to the President of the United States and American Rescue Plan Coordinator President Biden believes this type of robust down payment assistance is critical to helping more current renters who are working hard every day achieve the American Dream and build a cushion for their families while helping to close what is still a significant racial wealth gap."

Other partners supporting Round 2 have committed a total of $2 million in additional funds, bringing Round 2 to $7 million. They include:

- Comerica Bank
- Flagstar Bank
- Hudson Webber Foundation
- Huntington Bank
- Rocket Community Fund
- Wayne County

"As the first foundation to invest in this program, we are pleased to continue to support the success of this initiative, a crucial step toward making homeownership more accessible and sustainable for Detroit's residents," said Donald Rencher, President and CEO of the Hudson Webber Foundation. "Most importantly, the program's success in providing opportunities to black Detroiters is an important aspect of the city focusing on inclusive economic growth and achieving equity for its residents."

Key highlights from Round 1

- 434 total applications were approved
- Applicants received an average of $24,582 in funding
- Average sale price of a home was $112,000
- Average mortgage payment was $926
- 93% of DPA recipients are African American

The program is part of a $203 million Affordable Housing Plan, championed by Mayor Duggan and Councilmembers Latisha Johnson, Mary Waters, Angela Whitfield Calloway and Gabriela Santiago-Romero. Down payment assistance was among Johnson's contributions to the housing plan, with the issue being a major priority for the councilwoman, who spent more than a decade in the community fighting for increased access to home ownership for Detroiters.

The program is being implemented by National Faith Homebuyers, a Detroit-based nonprofit that since 1996 has assisted metro Detroiters in buying a house or staying in their homes, including down-payment assistance, first-time homebuyer counseling, and financial literacy programs.

"Over the past 28 years, National Faith Homebuyers has helped over 10,000 families realize and preserve the dream of home ownership," said Dina Harris, Founder and President of National Faith Homebuyers. "We are proud to work with the City of Detroit to build a "best in class" down payment program for Detroit residents that contributes to our city's resurgence."

The Ownership Initiative, a Black-owned impact advisory firm headquartered in Detroit, helped design the program. Founded by CEO Krysta Pate, The Ownership Initiative has helped create more than 30 initiatives across six states that have collectively deployed over $100 million into personal wealth building, affordable housing, and small-business empowerment opportunities.

"We are thrilled to see the positive impact of the down payment assistance program we designed in collaboration with the city. This initiative has empowered countless families to achieve their dream of homeownership, fostering a stronger and more vibrant community. The success of this program is a testament to the power of partnership and innovation in addressing housing affordability challenges."

To learn more about program details and eligibility requirements, and to apply, go to www.detroitdpa.org or call the Detroit Housing Resource HelpLine at 866-313-2520 (option 3 after the language prompt) to be connected to program partners.

Funding for the second round of the program includes $5 million from President Biden's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Qualifying Detroit households can use funds for other home purchase-related expenses, including prepaids (such as escrow deposits for property taxes), interest rate buy-downs, closing costs and reduction in principle

Eligibility and application process

To be eligible to apply for the program, applicants must prove they have lived in the city of Detroit for the last 12 months, or that they lost a home in the city due to property tax foreclosure between 2010 and 2016. Residents must not have owned a home for the past three years.

The total household income for applicants cannot exceed the following income limits per household size:

1 Person	2 Person	3 Person	4 Person	5 Person	6 Person	7 Person	8 Person
$45,180	$61,320	$77,460	$93,600	$109,740	$125,880	$142,020	$158,160

Here's what interested homebuyers can do to apply and receive funding:

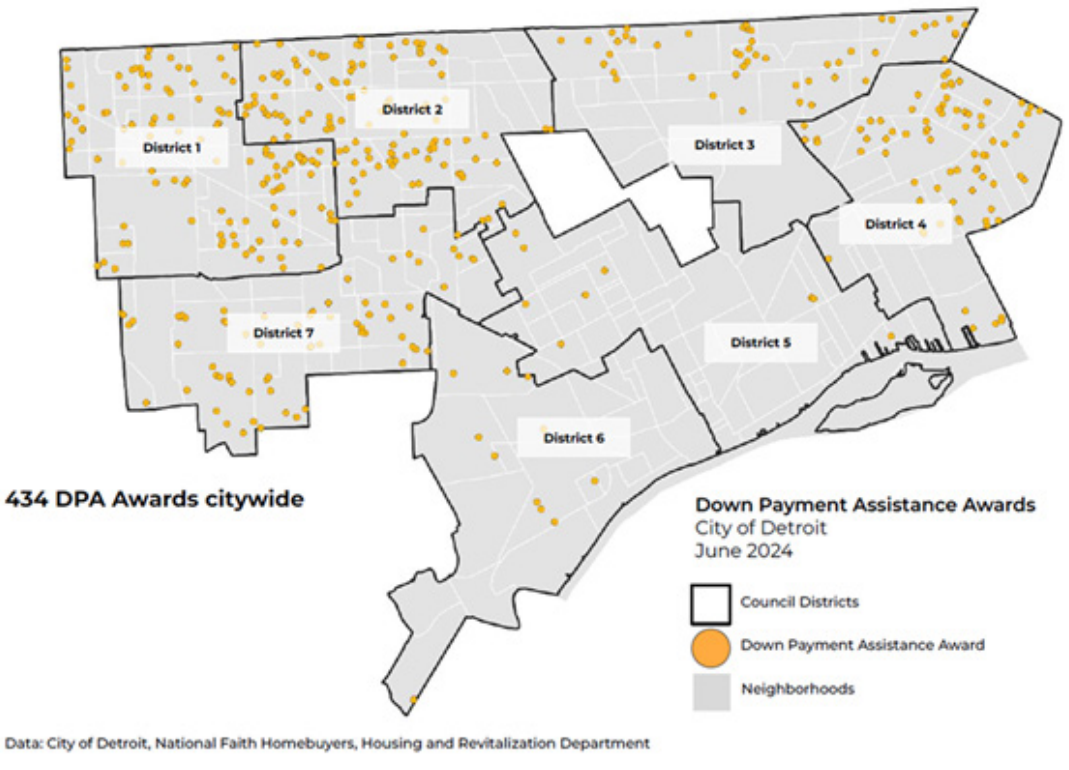
To apply for this program, you must:

1. Find your lender and get pre-qualified for a mortgage.
2. Find your home and have a signed purchase agreement.
3. Take a homebuyer education class.
4. Apply to the DPA Program

Increase in homeownership

Multiple Listing Service (MLS) data of financed home sales in the city shows an encouraging trend. In 2013, Detroit saw 327 financed home sales, according to Realcomp Multiple Listing Service (MLS). That number skyrocketed to 2,569 in 2023.

"We are thrilled to build upon the success of Round 1 of Detroit Down Payment Assistance," said Julie Schneider, Director of Housing & Revitalization. "434 Detroiters already have achieved housing stability through homeownership through this program and we are eager to serve more first-time homebuyers through Round 2 and create more vibrant communities."



Map shows where Round 1 Down Payment Assistance Program recipients bought homes in the City of Detroit

COUNCIL DISTRICT	DPA AWARD COUNT	PERCENT OF TOTAL
D1	108	24%
D2	113	26%
D3	50	12%
D4	76	18%
D5	9	2%
D6	11	3%
D7	67	15%

Down Payment Assistance Awards
City of Detroit
June 2024

Chart shows where Round 1 Down Payment Assistance Program recipients bought homes in the City of Detroit

- **Once Detroiters complete the necessary steps, they can apply at detroitdpa.org or call the Detroit Housing Resource HelpLine at 866-313-2520 for more information.**
- **434 Detroiters realized the American Dream of homeownership through Round 1 of this landmark program, with an average purchase price of $112,000.**
- **Round 1 funded with $12 million from Detroit share of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)**
- **Round 2 to help up to 300 more families with $5M more in ARPA, $2M in new partner funds**

SPECIAL WORLD'S CULTURES

Inuit: Artic Indigenous people

Inuit: Artic Indigenous people

The Inuit is the name given to many of the indigenous peoples of the Arctic of the American continent, located in northern Canada and Greenland; which are known for their sophisticated traditional hunting practices, where they seek a balance between what dies and what lives.

The language of the Inuit is Inuktut, in which the word Inuit means: "People", as a plural reference; then, the singular is Inuk: "Person". The Inuktut language has different dialect variants, as well as two writing systems: syllabic and Roman orthography. The syllabic system is the one that represents sounds beyond letter by letter, as is done with the Roman alphabet, which is the one used in Spanish and English.

The territory in which they live in Canada is known as Nunangat: "The place where the Inuit live", is comprised of four regions: Inuvialuit (the Northern Territories and Yukon); Nunavik (northern Quebec); Nunatsiavut (Labrador); Nunavut (the Canadian province), totaling 69,705 Inuit in Canada. To this territory is added Greenland, known as Inuit Nunaat: "the country of the Inuit"; where they are 89% of the national population.

For more than 5,000 years the Inuit have inhabited these Arctic regions, which has led them to the development of tools, as well as practices for the better and efficient use of resources in the extreme climatic conditions in which they live.

Their best-known living technologies are the sled, the igloo, bone sunglasses, ice fishing, and seal hunting. Hunting being their main source of food, reason that has led the Inuit to create seal skin coats that protect them from the freezing temperatures that reach -50°C or -58°F.

Despite being known as nomadic tribes, they tend to have constant movements, which means that they move around the same region in the same period of the year, that is, in each season they tend to reach certain destinations year after year.

A great identity feature are facial tattoos that have different symbolisms.

Like many other peoples, their original myth says that in the beginning it was water, but later rocks began to fall from the sky, which created the continental land mass where human beings live. Then, there were only human beings, man and woman, there were no animals on earth, so the woman asked the god of the sky, Kaila, to help her so that there were other beings that also inhabited the Earth. Kaila told her to make a hole in the ice so that she could bring all the animals from the water, so the woman began to fish, pulling out the animals one by one, including the caribou, which, Kaila said, would be her gift, because she and her children would eat from it.

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ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO,
by Mariana Ayón RV

ESPECIAL CULTURAS DEL MUNDO

Inuit: indígenas del Ártico

Inuit: indígenas del ártico

Los inuit es el nombre que reciben muchos de los pueblos indígenas del ártico del continente americano, ubicados en el norte de Canadá y Groenlandia; los cuales son conocidos por sus sofisticadas prácticas de caza tradicional, es decir, buscan que haya un equilibrio entre lo que muere y lo que vive.

La lengua de los Inuit es Inuktut, en la que la palabra Inuit significa: "Gente"; como referencia plural, pues, el singular es Inuk: "Persona". La lengua Inuktut tiene diferentes variantes dialectales, así como dos sistemas de escritura: la silábica y la ortografía romana. El sistema silábico es el que se ocupa de representar sonidos más allá de letra por letra, como se hace con el alfabeto romano, que es el que se usa en español e inglés.

Al territorio en el que habitan en Canadá se le conoce como Nunangat: "El lugar donde los Inuit viven", y está comprendido por cuatro regiones: Inuvialuit (los Territorios del norte y Yukon); Nunavik (el norte de Quebec); Nunatsiavut (Labrador); Nunavut (la provincia canadiense), sumando 69,705 Inuit en Canadá. A este territorio se le suma Groenlandia, conocido como Inuit Nunaat: "el país de los Inuit"; donde son el 89% de la población nacional.

Por más de 5,000 años los Inuit han habitado estas regiones del ártico, lo que les ha llevado al desarrollo de herramientas, así como prácticas para el uso y aprovechamiento de los recursos en las condiciones climáticas extremas en las que viven.

Sus tecnologías para vivir más conocidas son el trineo, el iglú, los lentes para sol de hueso, la pesca en hielo, la caza de focas. Siendo la caza su principal fuente de alimentos, los Inuit aprovechan toda la parte del animal, creando abrigos de piel de foca que les protegen de las gélidas temperaturas que llegan hasta los -50°c o -58°F.

A pesar de ser conocidos como tribus nómadas, suelen tener trazos constantes, es decir, se mueven alrededor de la misma región en el mismo periodo del año, es decir, en cada temporada tienden a llegar a ciertos destinos año con año.

Un gran rasgo de identidad son los tatuajes faciales que tienen diferentes simbolismos.

Como muchos otros pueblos, su mito original cuenta que en el principio fue el agua, pero posteriormente comenzaron a caer rocas del cielo lo que hizo que se creara la masa de tierra continental donde habitamos los seres humanos.

Luego, sólo había seres humanos, el hombre y la mujer, no había animales sobre la tierra, así que la mujer le pidió al dios del cielo, Kaila, le ayudara para que hubiera otros seres que también habitaran la Tierra. Kaila le dijo que hiciera un agujero en el hielo para que así trajera desde el agua a todos los animales, así, la mujer comenzó a pescar, sacando uno a uno los animales, incluso al caribú, el cual, dijo Kaila, sería su regalo, pues de éste comerían ella y sus hijos.

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Hispanic News

Bank of America Awards

Con't from pg. 1

The bank is directing funding to nonprofit organizations providing prevention and access to healthcare, food access and nutrition, family stabilization and other poverty related issues, including:

- ACCESS
- American National Red Cross
- United Community Family Services
- Children's Center of Wayne County
- Food Gatherers
- Forgotten Harvest
- Haven, Inc.
- Pope Francis Center
- Ruth Ellis Center
- SAY Detroit
- Salvation Army
- Lighthouse

The bank is also supporting nonprofits focused on workforce development opportunities like education, upskilling and reskilling programs that will help individuals and families stabilize and advance. Recipients include:

- Accounting Aid Society
- American Indian Health and Family Services of Southeastern Michigan
- Connect Detroit – Grow Detroit's Young Talent
- Detroit PAL
- Focus: HOPE
- Goodwill Industries of Greater Detroit
- Greening of Detroit
- Henry Ford Health System
- Junior Achievement of Southeastern Michigan
- Midnight Golf Program
- Mosaic Youth Theater of Detroit
- NPOWER, Inc.
- SER Metro Detroit Jobs for Progress
- Southwest Detroit Business Association
- Teach for America, Inc.
- The Edison Institute, Inc.
- United Way for Southeastern Michigan
- YMCA of Metropolitan Detroit

BANK OF AMERICA

In the past 10 years, Bank of America has awarded $45.3 million in grants to Michigan nonprofits.

RYSE MED High School Scholars practice suturing techniques in Henry Ford Health's Simulation Lab

RYSE MED Scholars participate in mentoring circles with clinicians, scientists, and near-peer

RYSE MED High School Scholars practicing hands-only CPR

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HISPANIC OWNED MEDIA CERTIFIED BY HACR

Revitalized Roosevelt Park

Con't from pg. 1

Despite the unfortunate timing of its formal debut, the park has the potential to be a model for fostering community connections. The space is dynamic enough to be used for relaxation or recreation. It is perfect for events hosted by the city or by members of the community.

"During the conceptualization of the Greater Corktown framework plan (spring of 2019), the community expressed that Roosevelt Park had been fairly neglected. People still used the park, but it was an unsafe space from an accessibility standpoint," said Droze.

The park is now level throughout, ensuring inclusivity for all visitors, including bikers, runners, and individuals with disabilities. Old-fashioned metal benches are scattered throughout the park – an ode to the past. Picnic tables contribute to the welcoming atmosphere. Light posts similar to the ones at Comerica Park light the park after dusk. No longer neglected, the park shines a lustrous green.

Originally, the park was bisected by two one-way roads. As part of the renovations, Vernor Highway was re-routed to 16th Street one block to the west, merging the park parcels into a single, unified park space.

"People also wanted to be able to move through the park, so access was part of that within shade and light," said Droze. "We really tried to keep as many of the trees as we could. Another thing people wanted was art. In the future, there's definitely space for it."

The main entrance is Michigan Avenue and 14th Street, along with entry points that flow into nearby neighborhoods. The aim is for a pedestrian-friendly foray into Corktown, Mexicantown, and Hubbard-Richard. Community input has been an impactful part of developing Roosevelt Park.

"It is a park for large events, but 300 plus days a year, it's a neighborhood park. And so, with any neighborhood park, there's going to be ideas that can be discussed for the city to review and make decisions," said Droze.

Considering the transformative projects taking place in the neighborhood, Allen Iles, a lifelong Detroiter thinks the park will flourish.

"I think anything that's within two to three miles of Michigan Central Station will be enhanced," said Iles.

With its community-focused approach, Roosevelt Park serves as a symbol of Detroit's revival and a beacon for the future of the city's green spaces.

"When we designed Roosevelt Park, the goal was to make it comfortable and inviting for a variety of community events and functions. We received feedback that the park should be able to host small neighborhood scale events like a birthday party or neighborhood resource fair to large public events like the celebrated Irish-Mexican Festival of years past," said Jeff Klein, Deputy Chief of Landscape Architecture.

Community members seeking to request the park for events may contact event coordinator Grace Wimbley at grace.wimbley@detroitmi.gov

Estefania Arellano-Bermudez is a lifelong Detroiter. She has published in the Telegram News, and is a regular contributor to EL CENTRAL Hispanic News.

Parque Roosevelt revitalizado

Con't de pg. 1

La construcción del parque comenzó en el verano de 2022 y se completó en el verano de 2023, pero el evento de inauguración se vio empañado con la visibilidad y la calidad del aire de Detroit, por el impacto de los incendios forestales canadienses. "Si encuentras fotos de la gran inauguración, hay neblina por todas partes, apenas se podía ver el Puente Ambassador", dijo Patrick Droze de OHM Advisors, la firma de diseño al frente del proyecto.

A pesar del desafortunado momento de su debut formal, el parque tiene el potencial de ser un modelo para fomentar las conexiones comunitarias. El espacio es lo suficientemente dinámico para ser utilizado para relajación o recreación. Es perfecto para eventos organizados por la ciudad o por miembros de la comunidad.

"Durante la planificación del marco del Gran Corktown (primavera de 2019), la comunidad expresó que el parque Roosevelt estaba descuidado. Todavía se usaba, pero era un espacio inseguro desde el punto de vista de la accesibilidad", comentó Droze.

El parque ahora está completamente nivelado, lo que garantiza la inclusión de todos, incluidos ciclistas, corredores y personas con discapacidad. Por todo el parque hay bancas antiguas de metal, dándole una mirada al pasado, las mesas de picnic contribuyen al ambiente acogedor, los postes de luz similares a los del parque Comerica, iluminan después del anochecer. Actualmente el parque resplandece de un verde brillante.

Originalmente, estaba atravesado por dos caminos de un solo sentido. Como parte de las renovaciones, Vernor Highway fue desviada hacia la Calle 16th, una cuadra hacia el oeste, fusionando las parcelas del parque en un único espacio unificado.

"La gente también quería acceder a todo el parque, por lo que, el tema de los senderos tenía parte de luz y oscuridad… Intentamos conservar tantos árboles como fue posible. Otra cosa que la gente pidió fue Arte, seguramente ahora hay espacio para ello", comentó Droze.

La entrada principal es la Avenida Michigan y la Calle 14th, junto con puntos de entrada de vecindarios cercanos. El objetivo es lograr el acceso amigable a los peatones en Corktown, Mexicantown y Hubbard-Richard. Los aportes de la comunidad han sido una parte impactante del desarrollo del parque Roosevelt.

"Es un parque para grandes eventos, pero más de 300 días al año es un parque de comunidad. Y con cualquier parque vecinal, habrá ideas que se pueden discutir para que la ciudad las revise y tome decisiones", dijo Droze.

Teniendo en cuenta los proyectos transformadores que se están llevando a cabo en el vecindario, Allen Iles, oriundo de Detroit, cree que el parque prosperará.

"Creo que todo lo que esté a dos o tres millas de la Estación Central será restaurado", dijo Iles.

Con su enfoque centrado en la comunidad, el parque Roosevelt sirve como símbolo del renacimiento de Detroit y un faro para el futuro de los espacios verdes.

"Cuando diseñamos el Parque Roosevelt, el objetivo era hacerlo cómodo y atractivo para una variedad de eventos y funciones comunitarias. Recibimos comentarios de que el parque debería poder albergar eventos a pequeña escala para el vecindario; como una fiesta de cumpleaños o una feria comunitaria, hasta grandes eventos públicos como el Festival Irlandés-mexicano de años anteriores", comentó Jeff Klein, subdirector de Arquitectura Paisajista.

Los miembros de la comunidad que deseen solicitar el parque para eventos, pueden comunicarse con la coordinadora de eventos Grace Wimbley en grace.wimbley@detroitmi.gov

Estefanía Arellano-Bermúdez originaria de Detroit. Ha hecho publicaciones en Telegram News y es colaboradora habitual de EL CENTRAL Hispanic News.

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2024 Uncle Ray's Mascot Chip Challenge

Photos by Jessica Ericson

Detroit Sports Media Association held its 11th annual Uncle Ray's Potato Chip, Mascot 'CHIP CHAMPION CHALLENGE.

The event raised money for high school and college students that wish to pursue a career in sports and broadcast journalism.

Mascots appearing and competing include, BOMBER (Windsor Spitfires), BUZZ (United Shore Professional Baseball League), FRIENDLY (Detroit City FC), HOT WING (Flint Firebirds), LANCELOT (USPBL), OZZY THE OCELOT (Schoolcraft College), PAWS (Detroit Tigers), TOMMY TITAN (UDM), WOOLEY (USPBL), ROARY (Detroit Lions), BLUE (Lawrence Tech University), SPARTY (Michigan State University), RIBBY (USPBL), and HOOPER (Detroit Pistons).

This year's winner was Hot Wing (Flint Firebirds)

Photos below are highlights from the 2024 Uncle Ray's Mascot Chip Challenge

Detroit Artist Rodriguez Honored by National Organization

Detroit artist Sixto Rodriguez was honored with MALDEF's distinguished Lifetime Achievement - Excellence in the Arts (Posthumous Award) at the organization's 2024 Chicago Awards Gala on June 13 for his commitment to human rights and social justice through the performing arts.

Inspired by his upbringing in a working class, immigrant family in Southwest Detroit, Rodriguez's music broadcasted anti-establishment and social justice themes. The singer also directly advocated for justice and progress in his community and instilled in his daughters a deep commitment to equality. In South Africa, his work was hugely popular amongst those against apartheid, inspiring them to continue to stand for reform.

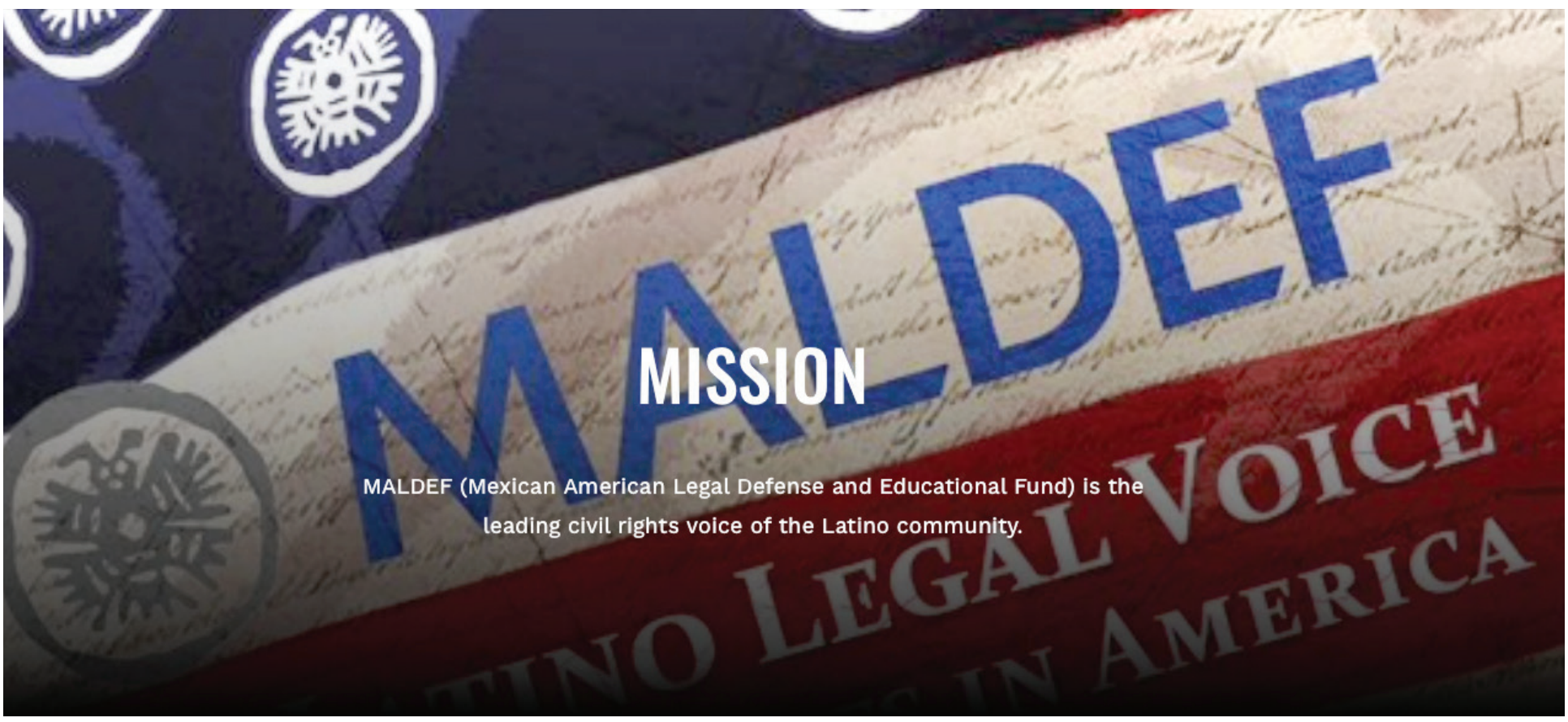
Founded in 1968, MALDEF (Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund) is the nation's leading Latino legal civil rights organization. The organization is committed to protect and defend the rights of all Latinos living in the United States and the constitutional rights of all Americans.

MALDEF hosts four annual awards galas in Washington, D.C., Chicago, San Antonio, and Los Angeles. The purpose of the galas is to celebrate the accomplishments of trailblazers in the Latino Community, and to come together as a community to inspire those in the room to continue to do the amazing work they are doing to improve the quality of life for Latinos in the United States. The galas are typically attended by the friends and family of the honoree, law firms, university leadership, other prominent members of the Latino community, and youth that will become the leaders of tomorrow.

Sandra Rodriguez Kennedy and Elton Monroy Duran

Sandra Rodriguez Kennedy (Rodriguez's daughter) and MALDEF President and General Counsel Thomas A. Saenz

(from left to right) Regan Rodriguez Barachkov (Rodriguez's daughter), Sandra Rodriguez Kennedy, and Thomas A. Saenz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MISSION
MALDEF (Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund) is the leading civil rights voice of the Latino community.

Founded in 1968, MALDEF (Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund) is the nation's leading Latino legal civil rights organization. Its commitment is to protect and defend the rights of all Latinos living in the United States and the constitutional rights of all Americans. MALDEF is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization. maldef.org

DCFC Women Advance to Semi Finals !!!

EL CENTRAL
HISPANIC NEWS
SPORTS

Sports Editor: Dan Graschuck/ EL CENTRAL

Photos by Adam J. Dewey

Detroit City FC comes from behind to defeat Indy Eleven on Sunday afternoon to claim the first-ever trophy on the women's side, winning the 2024 USL W League Central Conference Final at Keyworth Stadium, 3-1.

Le Rouge will host Colorado Storm at Keyworth Stadium on Saturday, June 13 in a 7 PM kickoff as part of a doubleheader with the USL Championship squad.

For tickets please visit: https://seatgeek.com/detroit-city-fc-tickets/united-soccer-league/2024-07-13-4-pm/6305594?mc_cid=bd89f94072&mc_eid=3e864618cb

Photos below are highlights from the DCFC Womens victory over Indy Eleven

Team captain Gabby Schriver (#30) raises the USL Women's League Central Conference Championship trophy in celebration with her teammates

Emily Pagett (#2) makes a tackle on an Indy Eleven defender

Aubree Ciampa (#14) races away from two Indy Eleven defenders giving chase

Ella Offer (#20) takes a free kick on Indy Eleven's net

DCFC players celebrate their first USL Women's League Central Conference Championship by giving head coach David Dwaihy a Gatorade shower

Northern Guard fans celebrate Sophia Romine's first half extra time goal giving DCFC a 2-1 advantage

DCFC Women Claim Central Conference Title

EL CENTRAL HISPANIC NEWS
Pateando la No. 5
SPORTS

David Levine
EL CENTRAL

In just their fourth season of first team football, the Detroit City FC women have brought home a trophy. They carried off the USL W League Central Conference championship last weekend by defending their home turf at Keyworth Stadium. The women will now move on to host a national semifinal this weekend.

Some teams in the USL W League went into the playoffs with some really gaudy statistics from the regular season. Most didn't live up to the hype. There are wide discrepancies in talent levels across the country. DCFC coach David Dwaihy can rest assured that he has a high level of talent in his squad. That talent includes young forward Lily Jeakle. The teenager had three goal and two assists in four games during the regular season, but played both playoff games and was the most dangerous player on the field.

During Friday's 3-0 win over River Light FC, Jeakle scored one goal and set up another. She's far from a one woman show as the regular seasons stats show. With a lineup that fluctuated from game to game due to the players' various commitments, thirteen different players scored. It didn't seem to matter who Dwaihy put on the field, the team found plenty of offense.

They also have a stingy defense in front of goalkeeper Gabby Shriver. The bespectacled number one conceded one goal in the two games last weekend at Keyworth, just the sixth in fourteen games. That goal came in Sunday's 3-1 win over Indy Eleven. The visitors struck early, as they did against Minnesota Aurora in the first round, shocking DCFC into action. However, Shriver still had to make an important save after thirteen minutes to keep the early deficit to just one goal. Her full extension fingertip save had the right effect on her teammates and they lifted their game.

Le Rouge levelled the score just five minutes later when Emily Paggett ripped a shot from the top of the penalty area into the side netting. It was her fourth goal of the summer, tying her with Jeakle and Kayla Addison for the team lead. From that point, it was a matter of when DCFC would take complete control and not if. The moment DCFC pulled ahead for good came just before halftime. Ella Offer beat her defender on the wing and pulled a low cross back towards the middle where Sophia Romine charged in and slammed the ball into the roof of the net.

As the second half got going, Indy tried to press forward for an equalizer. Jeakle and the rest of the DCFC attack came much closer to extending the lead than Indy did to tying the score. After a number of substitutions came into the game, DCFC put the result to bed. Kayla Addison pounced on a loose ball after the Indy goalkeeper had fumbled it and buried the clinching goal.

DCFC will host the national semifinal on Saturday afternoon at 7:00pm against the Colorado Storm. The women's game will precede the men's game which kicks off at 4:00pm.

10-MAN DCFC BATTLE TO DRAW WITH TAMPA BAY

Last weekend's 1-1 draw for the DCFC men resembled the play in the Copa America currently going on in various stadiums around the country. The referee lost control of the game, let one team get away with a number of hard fouls that didn't receive yellow cards. The other team got frustrated and it all boiled over.

The Tampa Bay Rowdies came into Keyworth with a high energy press and a plan to intimidate DCFC with physical play. They nearly forced goalkeeper Nate Steinwascher into giving the ball away twice with their pressure. Their fouls stifled much of the creativity. Like in the Copa America, this was more street fight than the beautiful game. Shots and chances came at a premium. Neither team had many attempts on goal.

By halftime, the temperature of the game had gone up, overwhelming referee Muhammed Hassan. One foul by DCFC had resulted in two players being booked, Ryan Williams and Abdoulaye Diop. There had also been a few incidents where players from both teams came together. Near the hour mark, a tough foul by Tampa Bay's number four Lewis Hilton caused Diop to react. Players from both teams as well as the bench leapt up in anger. Diop retaliated and after the dust settled he received his second yellow card. Hilton, who committed several of Tampa Bay's 23 fouls, escaped without even a warning.

A clearly incensed Danny Dichio also received a yellow card for his protests. 6,403 DCFC supporters voiced their opinion in the most colorful way possible.

Dichio made changes in response to going down a man and they had the desired effect. Elvis Amoh came on and provided a focal point up front. From a James Murphy free kick, Devon Amoo-Mensah nodded the ball back towards the middle where Amoh beat the goalkeeper to head the ball into the empty net. From there DCFC tried to hold on. Steinwascher made a couple of terrific saves and the woodwork came to the rescue once.

Finally, Le Rouge's resistance cracked four minutes into stoppage time. From another scramble after a corner, Nick Moon stabbed the ball past Steinwascher. DCFC had made a valiant attempt to claim three points, but the battle against Tampa Bay and their physical approach proved just a bit too difficult while down a man. Memphis 901 will visit Keyworth on Saturday evening. DCFC remains fifth in the Eastern Conference with still two games in hand on the teams around them.

Detroit Tigers Riley Greene and Tarik Skubal Heading To All Stars Team !!!

Photos of Riley Greene and Tarik Skubal by Adam J. Dewey, and All Star photo provided by Detroit Tigers

Detroit Tigers outfielder Riley Greene and pitcher Tarik Skubal, have been selected to the 2024 MLB All Star team.

The 2024 MLB All Star game will be played on Tuesday, July 16th at 8:00 pm (FOX), from Arlington's Globe Life Field, in Arlington, TX.

This is Riley Greene and Tarik Skubal's first All Star team selections.

Photos below are highlights from Riley Greene and Tarik Skubal from this season

EDITORIAL OPINION

El mayor dilema a la hora de votar: Biden o Trump

Por José López Zamorano
Para La Red Hispana

Más de 160 millones de votantes en los Estados Unidos tendrán un dilema el 5 de noviembre: votar por el segundo mandato de un presidente octogenario con claras evidencias de una agudeza cognitiva debilitada o por el de un casi octogenario falaz y carente de una brújula ética y moral.

El primer debate cara cara entre Joe Biden y Donald Trump, confirmó lo que todos veíamos, salvo aparentemente los asesores de los candidatos.

Que la agudeza mental de Biden ha experimentado un notorio declive en los últimos años y que es imposible tapar el sol con un dedo.

A lo largo de los 90 minutos del debate, especialmente en los primeros 30 minutos, Biden perdió el hilo de sus pensamientos en varias ocasiones, fue incapaz de confrontar las mentiras de Trump y de presentar un argumento persuasivo para elegirlo por cuatro años más.

Si Biden, de 81 años, es reelecto, terminará su segundo mandato el 20 de enero de 2029, a los 86 años.

Fiel a su personalidad explosiva e impredecible, Trump presentó una versión actualizada de un político capaz de proferir, mentiras, articular medias-verdades y dibujar un universo paralelo inexistente, sin inmutarse o sonrojarse.

Y nuevamente recurrió a insinuaciones racistas, aludiendo al caso de una joven mujer blanca, presuntamente asesinada por un inmigrante latino, a pesar de que no existe evidencia que los migrantes cometan crímenes en una proporción mayor que las personas nacidas en los Estados Unidos.

Ante este panorama es verdad que los electores estadounidenses tienen otra opción: expresar su rechazo a los candidatos que la mayoría no quería; simplemente abstenerse de votar; votar con una papeleta en blanco; o apoyar a alguna o alguno de media docena de candidatos independientes.

Aunque estas últimas opciones representan formas válidas de libertad de expresión, la realidad es que votar por estos candidatos, dejar de votar o votar por candidatos independientes, muy probablemente beneficie más a Trump.

A cuatro meses de las elecciones, los votantes tienen que decidir si prefieren un líder como Biden, que ha dejado de estar en el punto más alto de su desempeño pero que tiene buenas intenciones y habla con la verdad.

O votar por un Trump, que continúa desacreditando a las instituciones políticas electorales de Estados Unidos con "la gran mentira" del supuesto fraude electoral del 2020.

Cuando la moderadora Dana Bash le preguntó a Trump si estaba dispuesto a aceptar ahora los resultados de las elecciones, el expresidente eludió la pregunta en dos ocasiones y sólo al final aceptó que lo haría si las elecciones son justas y legales.

Si gana gozará además de la inmunidad a sus actos oficiales que le confirió la semana pasada la mayoría conservadora de la Supema Corte de Justicia. Y ya nos adelantó que será dictador en su primer día y su primera acción será cerrar la frontera de Estados Unidos y México.

A pesar del dilema para los votantes, dejar de votar no debería ser una opción, porque aun cuando ninguna de las opciones responda 100% a nuestros deseos e intereses, no se debe dejar que otros decidan por nosotros.

El voto es nuestra voz. Y no podemos, ni debemos, guardar silencio cuando tanto está en juego.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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Detroit, MI 48226
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Lunes: 6:00pm
Martes: 6:00pm
Miércoles: 9:00am

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EDITORIAL OPINION

The biggest dilemma when voting: Biden or Trump

By José López Zamorano
For La Red Hispana

More than 160 million voters in the United States will have a dilemma on November 5: vote for the second term of an octogenarian president with clear evidence of weakened cognitive acuity or for a fallacious almost octogenarian lacking an ethical compass and moral.

The first face-to-face debate between Joe Biden and Donald Trump confirmed what we all saw, except apparently the candidates' advisors.

That Biden's mental acuity has experienced a notable decline in recent years and that it is impossible to cover the sun with a finger.

Throughout the 90 minutes of the debate, especially in the first 30 minutes, Biden lost his train of thought on several occasions, was unable to confront Trump's lies and make a persuasive argument to elect him for four more years. .

If Biden, 81, is re-elected, he will finish his second term on January 20, 2029, at age 86.

True to his explosive and unpredictable personality, Trump presented an updated version of a politician capable of uttering lies, articulating half-truths and drawing a non-existent parallel universe, without flinching or blushing.

And again he resorted to racist insinuations, alluding to the case of a young white woman, allegedly murdered by a Latino immigrant, despite the fact that there is no evidence that migrants commit crimes at a higher rate than people born in the United States.

Given this panorama, it is true that American voters have another option: to express their rejection of the candidates that the majority did not want; simply abstain from voting; vote with a blank ballot; or support any or all of half a dozen independent candidates.

Although these latter options represent valid forms of free speech, the reality is that voting for these candidates, stopping voting, or voting for independent candidates, will most likely benefit Trump more.

Four months before the election, voters have to decide if they prefer a leader like Biden, who is no longer at the peak of his performance but who has good intentions and speaks the truth.

Or vote for a Trump, who continues to discredit the electoral political institutions of the United States with "the big lie" of the alleged 2020 electoral fraud.

When moderator Dana Bash asked Trump if he was willing to accept the election results now, the former president twice dodged the question and only finally agreed that he would do so if the election is fair and legal.

If he wins, he will also enjoy the immunity from his official acts that was conferred on him last week by the conservative majority of the Supreme Court of Justice. And he already told us that he will be dictator on his first day and his first action will be to close the border of the United States and Mexico.

Despite the dilemma for voters, stopping voting should not be an option, because even if none of the options responds 100% to our desires and interests, we should not let others decide for us.

The vote is our voice. And we cannot, nor should we, remain silent when so much is at stake.

Opinions in this column are not necessarily those of the Publisher or Editor

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Your Vote Decides Who Sits on the Michigan Supreme Court

It seems like there's news about the U.S. Supreme Court nearly every day. But what doesn't get nearly enough attention is the Michigan Supreme Court – and the fact that we, the people, have the power to elect our Supreme Court. Michigan is one of just 24 states that lets voters decide who sits on the highest court in the state. And every Michigander should know how the process works and why it matters.

This November, Michiganders get to choose who fills two spots on the court. This is an important civic duty and an opportunity to shape this vitally important institution. The Michigan Supreme Court is the guardian of justice, fairness, and freedoms for all Michiganders. The seven-person court makes decisions that touch every aspect of our lives, from civil rights and criminal justice to environmental protection and economic regulations.

Chances are, you know what's at stake in the next few years: reproductive rights, abortion laws, gun safety, immigrant rights and fair elections – and there's no telling what other issues may come before the court. The Michigan Supreme Court makes the ultimate decisions on the most challenging legal cases in the state, which require thoughtful, insightful, and robust deliberation to help ensure a fair outcome.

In Michigan, Supreme Court candidates are nominated by a political party, but their party affiliation is not included on the ballot. The justices are elected for eight-year terms, which means the votes you cast this year will make a difference for nearly a decade.

Plenty of Michiganders like to check the straight-party box, which is just fine – but don't stop there. To cast your vote for the Supreme Court candidates of your choice, you have to keep going to the non-partisan section of your ballot. You can't miss it. Get to know the candidates in advance, then mark the ballot to vote for the two people you think will do the best job of ensuring a strong, equitable future for our state.

Being a Michigan Supreme Court justice requires integrity, fairness, and a strong understanding of the law. In fact, candidates must be a licensed Michigan lawyer for at least five years. The Michigan Supreme Court is one of the three equal branches of our state government, along with the Legislature and Governor. Michigan voters have the privilege of choosing who is appointed to all three branches – and it's an important responsibility.

Remember: Don't stop at the top! Go all the way down the ballot to cast your vote for the two Michigan Supreme Court candidates of your choice. Your vote counts in every race, so make sure your voice is heard in this one, too.

Want to know more about the Michigan Supreme Court, the voting process, or how to spread the word about the importance of electing the people who will sit on our state's highest court? Visit **www.MISupremeCourtRocks.com** to get all the information you need to play your part in this important part of this year's election.

-Cindy Gamboa, MI Poder Executive Director

MI PODER

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Hey Voter!

Start the voting process now for the August 6 Primary Election.

Until July 22: you can register to vote online or by mail. Complete or download an application at mi.gov/vote.

Starting July 23 through 8 p.m. on Election Day: you must register at your local clerk's office with proof of residency.

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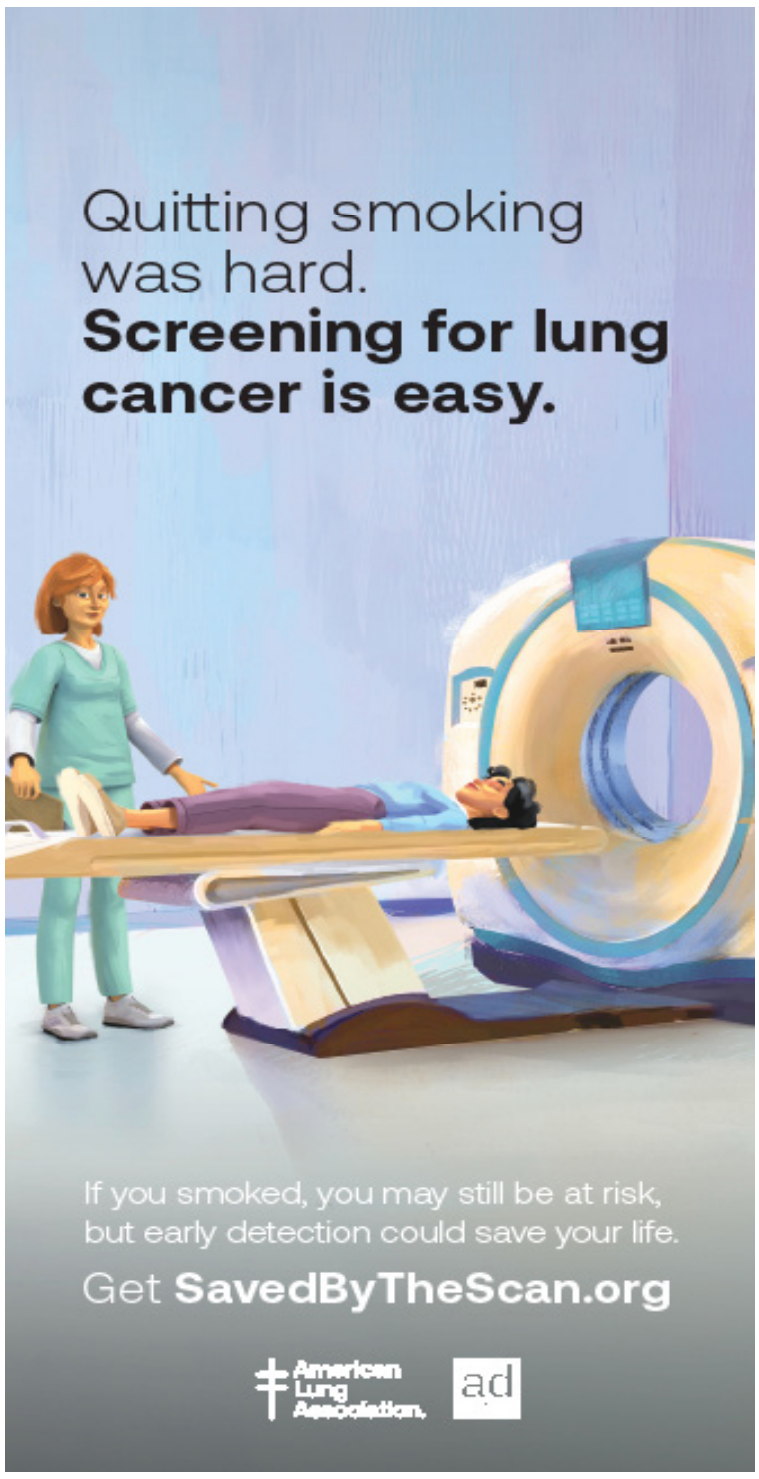
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